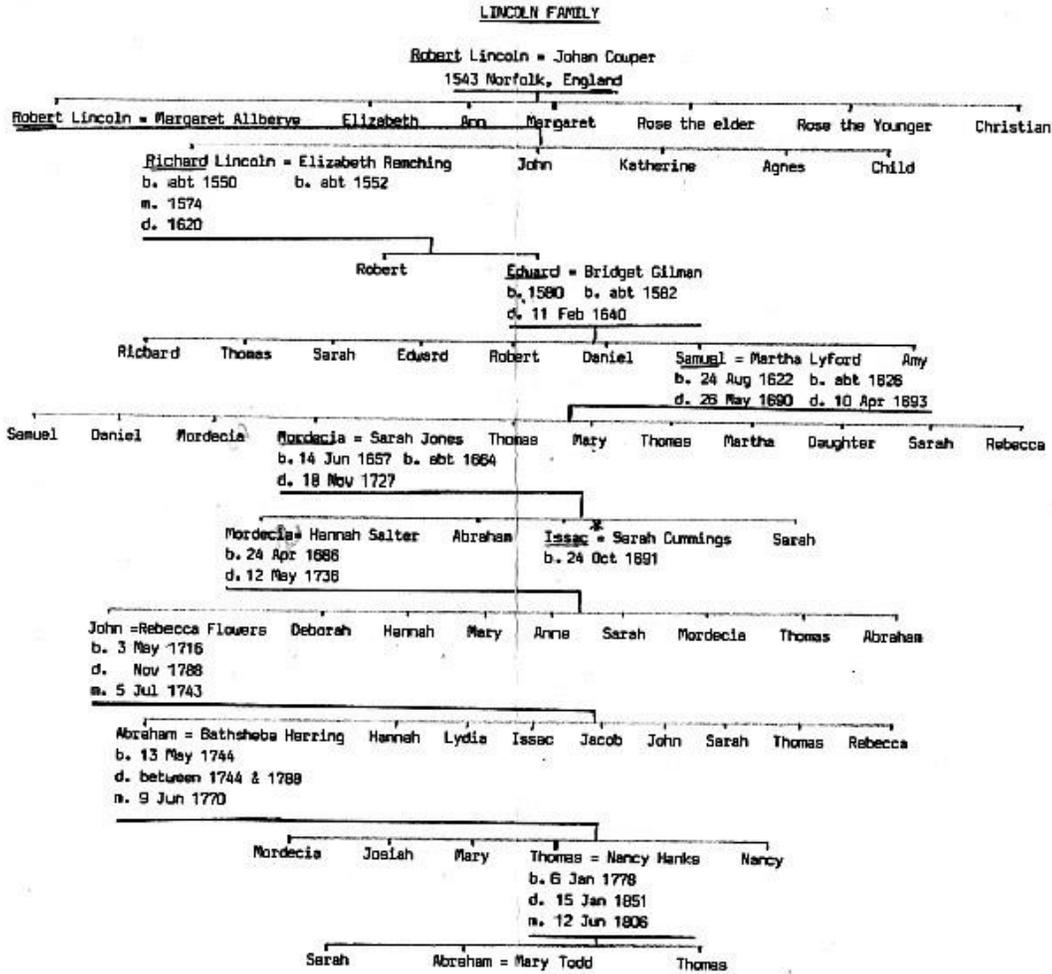


LINCOLN HISTORY INFORMATION

Compiled below is a Lincoln genealogy and articles, notes, and pictures related to Abraham and Mordecai Lincoln:

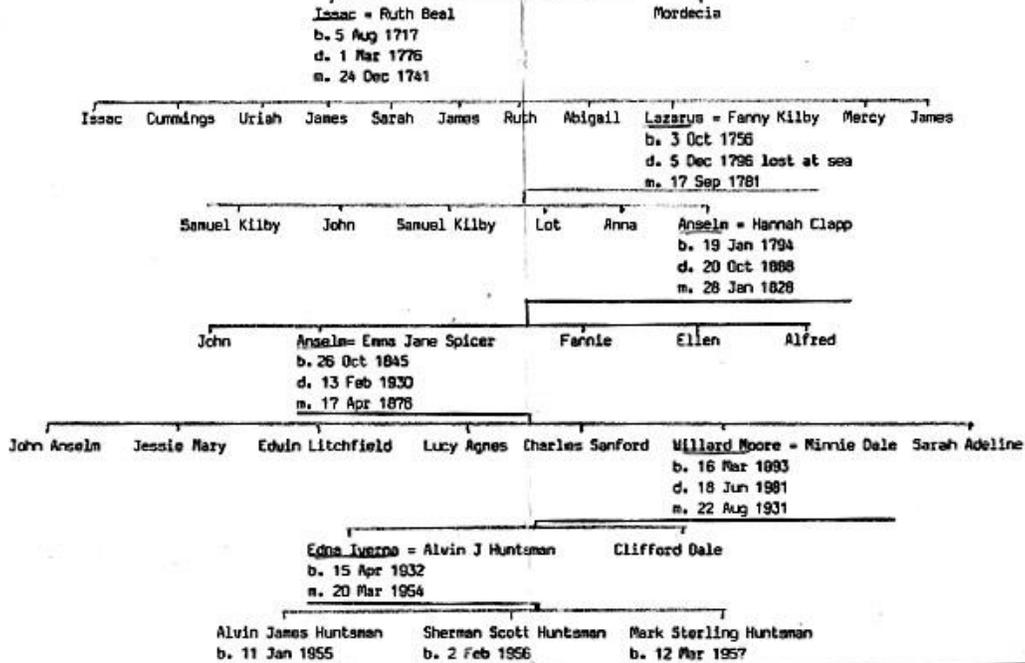
source: unknown



Abraham and Mary Todd
 b. 12 Feb 1807
 d. 15 Apr 1865
 m. 4 Nov 1842

Robert Todd b. 1843 d. 1926	Edward Baker b. 1846 d. infancy	William Wallace b. 1850 d. 1852	Thomas b. 1853 d. 1871
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Continuation of Isaac Lincoln and Sarah Dunning



Abe Lincoln's folks came to Hingham

From a Mariner publication in 1985

Abraham Lincoln's ancestors came from Norfolk, England to Massachusetts in the early 17th century. Between 1633 and 1645, eight adult Lincolns settled in Hingham. Samuel Lincoln the weaver, from whom the 16th President is descended, came to Hingham in 1637 and remained there until his death in 1690. His large rambling house (circa 1667) still stands.

Successive generations gradually moved westward:

Mordecai: born Hingham moved to Scituate, Mass.

Mordecai: born Scituate, moved to New Jersey.

John: born New Jersey, moved to Pennsylvania.

Abraham: born Virginia, moved to Kentucky

Abraham: (the president): born Kentucky,

moved to Illinois.

The Lincoln Statue, in downtown Hingham, shows a contemplative President in bronze.

The work, by New York sculptor Charles Keck, was unveiled on September 23, 1939.

During Lincoln's first term, his vice-president was Hannibal Hamlin, the son of Pembroke-born Eleazer Hamlin.

(From The Boston Globe -Feb. 7, 1965, p. A-5)



Ancestral Home

The Mordecai Lincoln house in Scituate, built in 1717, just over the line from Hingham, is the oldest in the town.

Earliest Ancestors Lived in Hingham

By ROY JOHNSON

Abraham Lincoln didn't know it, but his earliest American ancestors lived in Hingham. He could count the limbs on his family tree back to Grandfather Abraham, who had been killed by an Indian, but that was all. His were "the short and simple annals of the poor."

The Lincolns came to New England from Hingham, Norfolk County, England, where "Linkhorns" and "Lincons" had lived for centuries.

Samuel Lincoln arrived from England in 1640. His fourth son, Mordecai, born in Hingham June 14, 1657, became a blacksmith. He found water power and bog iron near Bound Brook. He set up iron works, grist and saw-mills. He died rich, as riches were reckoned in those days

Mordecai built a substantial dwelling in 1717 just over the town line in Scituate. He, his family of six children and their descendents lived there for several generations.

The house was heavily damaged by fire in 1919, but has been carefully restored by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ladd, who live there. Mordecai was an outstanding citizen. His house is the oldest in Scituate.

Mordecai's first wife, Sarah, was a daughter of Abraham Jones of Hull. She introduced the name, Abraham, into the Lincoln genealogy.

Mordecai's son, also Mordecai, was born in Hingham in 1686. He moved to where he considered greener pastures in Monmouth County, N.J., and later to Pennsylvania.

He gave his sons, still another Mordecai, and Thomas, all his land in Amity, Pa. To his oldest son, John, the great grandfather of President Lincoln, he left 300 acres in New Jersey. John sold his land and settled in Augusta County, Va.

He had four sons, John, Thomas, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. After John's oldest son, Abraham, reached manhood, he first lived in North Carolina. There he heard about the Kentucky bluegrass country.

The original field book kept by Daniel Boone records that Abraham Lincoln took up 500 acres of land on a Treasury warrant on the south side of Licking Creek, Ky., in 1782. He built his cabin in the wilderness near Bear Grass Fort, close by the site later occupied by Louisville.

While the first Abraham Lincoln to live in Kentucky was working in the field an Indian shot and killed him from ambush. His son, Mordecai, ran to the cabin for his rifle and returned just in time to see an Indian grab his little brother, Thomas.

Mordecai's bullet killed the marauder and so saved the life of little Tom, who became the father of our 16th President.

Mordecai Lincoln was President's ancestor

B / David Wadsworth
Senior Curator, Cohasset Historical Society

The earliest English settlers of New England arrived here during the third and fourth decades of the 17th century. Within two generations their descendants began the dispersal of population which would continue until the Pacific Ocean was reached more than a century later. Second and third generation New Englanders were among the hardy breed of pioneers who opened the frontiers of a new nation.

Distinguished among those early New England families who took part in the move away from the old settlements bordering the Atlantic Ocean was one whose name still exists in the three towns of their earliest residency, and whose name is known to every American school student.

That family name is Lincoln, and the earliest American roots of the Lincoln family can be found in Cohasset, Hingham and Scituate. The illustrious descendant of the Lincolns was Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. Among several Lincolns from England to emigrate to the new colonies in America was Samuel, of Hingham, England, who arrived at the settlement of Hingham in the Massachusetts Bay Colony during the year 1637.

Samuel Lincoln had been born August 24, 1622, and journeyed to the New World when he was a young man of barely 15. Samuel's parents were Edward and Bridget (Gilman) Lincoln, and the family name has been traced as far back as Robert Lincoln, born in the year 1496. Samuel's parents did not make the great voyage to the American colonies, but a number of the family are known to have arrived in New England before the middle of the 17th century.

Young Samuel, residing in the settlement at Hingham, was known as a "weaver" and "mariner" by occupation. He married Martha, daughter of the Reverend John and Sarah Lyford of Hingham. The Rev. Lyford, a clergyman of some early note in the early Pilgrim settlement at Plymouth, later settled in Hingham.

June 14, 1657, a son was born to Samuel and Martha Lincoln. The boy was named Mordecai. In later years, Mordecai Lincoln would become a blacksmith by trade, and was one of the owners of three early mills in the Cohasset and Scituate area. He married Sarah, daughter of Abraham and Sarah Jones of the settlement at Hull. Of Mordecai Lincoln's three mills, all built on the small stream called Bound Brook, one still exists, a few yards beyond the boundary of Cohasset and Scituate, over the brook which once powered its water wheel. Mordecai was one of the first industrialists of this area.

His mills variously ground corn, smelted low-grade "bog" iron ore for the making of tools and sawed timbers for the colonists' new homes. He also owned a house (still standing) in North Scituate, and built another near South Main Street in Cohasset. Of the five children of Mordecai and Sarah Lincoln, son Mordecai, Jr. was born upon April 24, 1686.



The Lincoln Mill located on Mordecai Lincoln Rd. in N. Scituate.

This son later moved from the Massachusetts Bay Colony to Monmouth County, New Jersey, then in about 1735 to Pennsylvania. While in New Jersey he married Hannah Salter, and their eldest child, John, was born in Monmouth. Mordecai Lincoln, Jr. died in Amity, Pennsylvania, and his will was proven in June of 1736. The son John became one of a group of neighbors who moved together to Rockingham County, Virginia. John Lincoln had five sons; Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Thomas and John. It was the eldest son Abraham who would be the grandfather of the President who bore the family name. This early Abraham Lincoln married Mary Shipley of North Carolina. In about 1780 the Lincolns moved to Beargrass Fort, Kentucky. Of their five children, son Thomas, born about two years earlier, would become the father of the President.

During the spring of 1784, Abraham Lincoln was killed by a hostile Indian while planting his fields. The young son Thomas was rescued from near-capture by a shot from the rifle of his older brother Mordecai which felled the hostile Indian. Thomas Lincoln grew up in the care of near relatives, became a carpenter and cabinetmaker, and married Nancy Hanks. Their son Abraham was born upon February 12, 1809 near Hodgenville, Kentucky. In 1816 Thomas, Nancy and the seven-year-old Abraham moved from Kentucky to Indiana, settling on farmland at Pigeon Cove Farm in Spencer County. Nancy (Hanks) Lincoln died on October 5, 1818 and Thomas Lincoln soon married Sarah Bush Thomson of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. It was

she who encouraged and taught the youthful Abraham to learn to read and write, for schooling in that frontier land was infrequent.

In March of 1830 the Lincoln family again moved, this time to rich farmland near the Sangamon River a few miles from Decatur, Illinois. Soon after this, the young Abraham Lincoln parted from his family to pursue the career which would lead him in years to come to the highest honor the new nation could bestow upon one of its sons, the Presidency of the United States.

Returning quickly to the President's Cohasset and Scituate ancestor Mordecai Lincoln; Mordecai's iron smelter and mill near the head of Bound Brook was located in the Beachwood area of Cohasset, at a site called Turtle Island, just off today's Mill Lane.

This and other two Lincoln mills were in operation before 1700. Mordecai's house on South Main Street an early gambrel cottage, probably was built for his son Isaac. The cottage survived into the 20th century when it was destroyed by fire. Mordecai's brother Daniel resided in the Cohasset area, building a house in about 1682 near Little Harbor on the first road to Hingham. Daniel was a large landowner and became one of the earliest prominent residents of Cohasset. Descendants of the first Lincoln families can still be found living in Cohasset.

Thus it is that the three towns of Cohasset, Hingham and Scituate all can rightly claim to have a connection with President Abraham Lincoln through two of their earliest settlers, Samuel of Hingham and his son Mordecai of Cohasset and Scituate.

3 Dams Built by Lincoln's Ancestor Still in Cohasset

Mordecai Lincoln Operated Mills on Bound Brook at Three Levels—House Built by Him Is Still Standing

By EMERSON HUNT

No monument of Abraham Lincoln is nearer to the South Shore than that in Park square, sometimes called "Lincoln Having His Shoes Shined," but Cohasset turns out to be a gold mine of Lincoln traditions.

It was at a filling station beside the main road through Cohasset that a Lincoln relic first came to the notice of a wandering motorist.

"Pretty little ice pond back there," he said, pointing to a small body of water beside the highway.

"Sure 'tis, and it ought to be," answered an elderly native who was standing by, "that there now dam was built onto it by Abraham Lincoln's great-great grandfather."

"Now that was never taught in school, so the wandering motorist asked for more information.

"I can't tell ye nawthin' about it," said the elderly one, "You take and go up and see Dr. Howe up to the common. He'll tell you more about this town than anybody else ever knew."

DOCTOR INFORMATIVE

So the motorist took and went up to the common and saw Dr. Howe.

No country doctor has a more pleasant situation in life than Dr. Oliver H. Howe. His white, old-fashioned dwelling house faces Cohasset green, one of the brightest jewels of the South Shore, with its trim white houses, its church on the rocky hillside and its carillons.

Dr. Howe led the pilgrim into his consulting room, where the bright afternoon sunlight splashed against a case of medical books, a desk with a cabinet of pills above it and wall photographs of foreign scenes.

Like every country doctor, he has several hobbies, an important one being the study of genealogy and local history. He is president of Cohasset's historical society.

"Yes," he said, "not many people realize it when they travel along that road, but it's true. Mordecai Lincoln built that dam and he was Abraham Lincoln's great-great-grandfather. There's a road running over it, perhaps you noticed, that's travelled a good deal. He built three dams in Bound brook and that was the lowest one of the three in the stream.

FIRST WAS SAMUEL

"You see, Samuel Lincoln was the first one who came here from Hingham, England, and he settled here in Hingham as a weaver to be near people from his old home across the sea. His third son was Mordecai, who came over here to Cohasset in 1691.

"Mordecai didn't follow his father's

trade. He decided to be a blacksmith and apprenticed himself to a man named Abraham Jones over in Hull. That's how the name Abraham came into the family. Mordecai married Sarah Jones.

"Well, one day this Mordecai found some deposits of bog iron over in Pembroke and he thought it would be a good idea to smelt it for iron. So he used to haul it over to Cohasset, probably by ox teams over the long, hard road.

"There's an interesting point there, by the way. Mordecai got his ore from the farm off a man named Benjamin Hanks. Now, while it can't be proven, it's generally believed that he was one of the ancestors of Nancy Hanks, who was Abraham Lincoln's mother.

"It's a strange, strange thing how these family threads and lines continue back and back now dividing, now joining again," said Dr. Howe. "That's why he likes to study genealogy. He likes to trace the threads of life back to their dim beginnings.

SYSTEM OF DAMS

"This Mordecai was an ingenious sort of man," he continued, "There wasn't enough water in Bound brook to keep his mills going steadily all the time, so he built three dams and three mills. The highest in the stream was at Turtle island. The next was where Morris' ice house is now, and the lowest was the one you saw on the main road.

"On Mondays and Tuesdays Mordecai closed the second dam and used the water to run his mill on the first dam. On Wednesdays and Thursdays he closed the lowest dam and used the same water, which had collected behind the second dam, to run his second mill. And on Fridays and Saturdays he used the same water a third time to run his third mill.

Several historians, notably Ida M. Tarbell, have collected from old Cohasset residents information about Lincoln's ancestors, but hardly a traveler through the town knows where the Lincoln relics can be found.

The three dams constitute the principal monument, but there is a house built by Mordecai Lincoln still standing on the Scituate side where he is reputed to have made his home. Another gambrel-roofed house in Cohasset is thought to have been built by Mordecai for his son, Isaac, but the building was burned 16 years ago. On the site is a modern gambrel-roofed house occupied by a man named Lincoln.

"Well," said the doctor, "that's about all there is left around Cohasset of the Lincoln family possessions—the house

and the three dams. Mordecai lived out his life here, and after he died his son, who was also named Mordecai, settled down in Monmouth county, New Jersey. Later on the family moved to Pennsylvania, and still later generations went to Kentucky, where Abraham Lincoln was born.

"Mordecai Lincoln was one of the earliest iron-masters in this country.

He also operated a trip hammer and made nails, bolts, hinges, andirons and a great variety of farming tools and household utensils. Probably some of them are still in existence, but he didn't use a trade mark, so we can't tell them when we find them. He had a saw mill and a grain mill here, too, that he operated at the same time, but nothing is left of them but traditions."

From local newspaper clipping - date unknown

INCIDENTALLY . . . by Paul J. Reale

Land Of Lincoln's Forebears

ON LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY it's always pleasant to remind ourselves again with a fresh twinge of pride, and to inform the newcomers in our midst that it was this area that gave the nation the man we revere today.

This, after all, was the home of Abraham's forebears.

The Lincolns came from Hingham, England, and, after living a while in Salem, they settled in New Hingham, as it was then called, and branched out into Cohasset, Scituate and beyond.

Abraham Lincoln's great, great, great, great grandfather was Mordecai Lincoln, born in our Hingham, and so enterprising and bright that he was easily one of the wealthiest men around, if not the wealthiest, as proprietor of an ironworks, sawmill and gristmill.

You can still motor past the Mordecai Lincoln Mansion House, the huge colonial he built on Bound Brook in Scituate in 1695, when he was 38, and husband of Sarah Jones of Hull.

The present owner-occupants are Donald B. Ladd, an independent marketing consultant, and his wife Marjorie, who purchased the property in 1957, coming from Lewiston Heights, N. Y.

Mordecai had a smaller house in Cohasset that he put up in 1686, with a gambrel roof, and it stood till 1919, with Lincolns still living in it, when it was destroyed by fire touched off either by firecrackers or lightning, nobody seems ever to have determined exactly which. (Artist Daniel Rugg Hathaway of Marblehead rescued fireplace accessories from the hot ashes, and these came into the hands of Mrs. Alexander Stoddard of Cohasset and then to her daughter, Mrs. Eleanor Marsh of Scituate, who has gifted some to the Cohasset and Scituate Historical Societies. Hathaway later wed Katherine Butler of Salem, author of "The Little Locksmith," at one time quite a popular book.)

Mordecai and Sarah had an eldest son, also called Mordecai, and if reports that have come down to us are true, the boy and his father's second wife, who was the affluent widow Mary Gannett "of Braintree," didn't hit it off too well, and he consequently took off for Monmouth County, New Jersey, with a younger brother Abraham.

And this young Mordecai had a son John, who removed to Virginia and had a son Abraham, who went to Beargrass Fort, Kentucky, and had a son Thomas, the father of the Abraham destined to become our 16th president.

THERE WAS A DRIVE some years back to make a national shrine of the Mordecai Lincoln Mansion House; but the move came to naught.

The Ladds occupied the house and have restored it to the extent of their personal liking, and furnished it appropriately, and painted it a deep brown; and also kept in

repair what remains of Mordecai's gristmill on the property.

Cohasset records show Mordecai to have been an extremely skillful and resourceful fellow, as this account would indicate . . .

"Mordecai Lincoln's mill was a good site for both a corn mill and a saw mill, which supplied the needs of the growing settlements at North Scituate and Cohasset. He was a blacksmith by trade, but his ingenuity in using the power of Bound Brook was well illustrated by his three mill dams. During the summer the brook dwindles to a very weak stream of water, but even this little power was so economically used as to do a full week's work, from Sunday to Sunday. Mordecai would shut the uppermost dam at Turtle Island in Beechwood until a good-sized pond was formed. Then on Monday and Tuesday, with a full pond, the Turtle Island mill would work under full power. The water that passed on downstream was caught at the second dam, where for two days, Wednesday and Thursday, the second mill was used. The water would then pass on down to the present Mordecai Lincoln millpond, where the mill would work on Friday and Saturday, and then the water would pass into the ocean."

The ironworks turned out a mammoth black cauldron that may be seen at the Cudworth House in Scituate, home of the Scituate Historical Society.

MRS. LADD is from Kentucky, originally, and therefore the name Lincoln was hardly alien to her when she and her husband came to Scituate seeking a house, but interestingly enough, they fell in love with Mordecai's house and resolved to purchase it, not yet aware of its Lincoln associations.

"It looked big and comfortable, and we were simply intrigued by the place and the large elm trees out front," Mrs. Ladd recalls.

It's a large, square house of 2½ stories, with central chimney, four bedrooms, two baths, spacious dining room and living room, and what was the "borning and dying room" was incorporated into the living room before the Ladds' arrival.

President Lincoln once visited Boston and left the city for two days, coming south to see the land of his ancestors, but, while letters show he got to Hingham, there is no real evidence that he ever came beyond to cast his eyes on the Mordecai Lincoln Mansion House, though some suspect he did.

Lincoln buffs frequently seek out the place for a look, and the site has been an attraction on house tours and, more spectacularly, it has been the home of three young men, the Ladds' slender and tall sons Richard (6-feet-5), Charles (6-feet-8) and Jeffrey (6-feet-9), the final two so dark and Lincolnesque in stature that on two occasions one of the other has stirred audiences to Lincoln gatherings by showing up garbed and made up to look like it was Honest Abe himself.

Main facts concerning the Mordecai Lincoln

Mansion House

1. Mansion house stands on land purchased from the Gannett family in 1692.
2. Mordecai Lincoln built his mansion house in 1695 and moved into it sometime between 1695 and 1700.
3. He was a widower at this time with five children - they were: Mordecai born in 1686, Abraham born in 1689, Isaac born in 1691, Sarah born in 1694, and Elizabeth born in ?.
4. Mordecai married widow Mary (Hobart) (Chapin) Gannett on February 17, 1702 and they had one child, Jacob born in 1711.
5. The mansion house was bequeathed to Jacob by Mordecai in his will dated May 3, 1727 and it was continuously owned by the Lincolns until 1791. There followed a succession of owners until the Ladds.
6. The ell was taken from the house, moved to the edge of Bound Brook, and made into a guest house by the Cornet-Low family in
7. The estate now consists of the mansion house, guest house, mill, and shed (used as a garage). The property includes the mill dam and a section of Cohasset land and it is bordered by the Gulph River and Bound Brook.
8. This estate was purchased by the Donald B. Ladds of New York in 1789.

The Ladds had owned an early 19th Century house in upper New York State which they had successfully restored. This experience proved valuable in the careful restoration (still continuing) of the old Lincoln property.

Two large unattractive screen porches on either side of the mansion house were removed permitting the fine lines of the old house to emerge. The restoration of the interior has been difficult - a large ugly modern brick fireplace mantle was removed in the main living-room and was replaced by a carefully made copy of an ^{old} existing mantle *in the house*. The clumsy Mission-type built-in bookcases were removed, as were the homely exposed center ceiling lighting fixtures, ~~and~~ an authentic fireplace was uncovered in an upstairs bedroom and restored.

The mansion house now consists of two large square rooms, kitchen, and a small entrance hall with a pannel stairway around a central chimney downstairs. The usual long kitchen across the entire rear of the house is said to have included a "burning and dying" room. Upstairs are two more good sized square rooms.

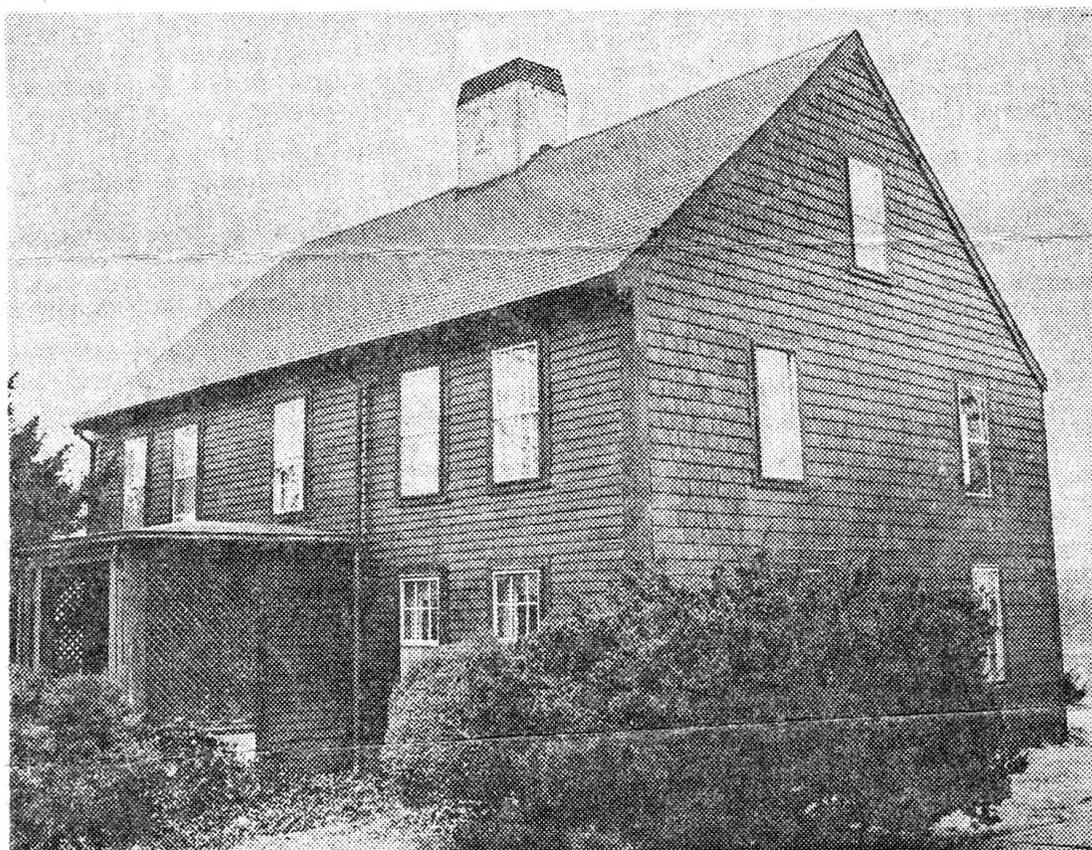
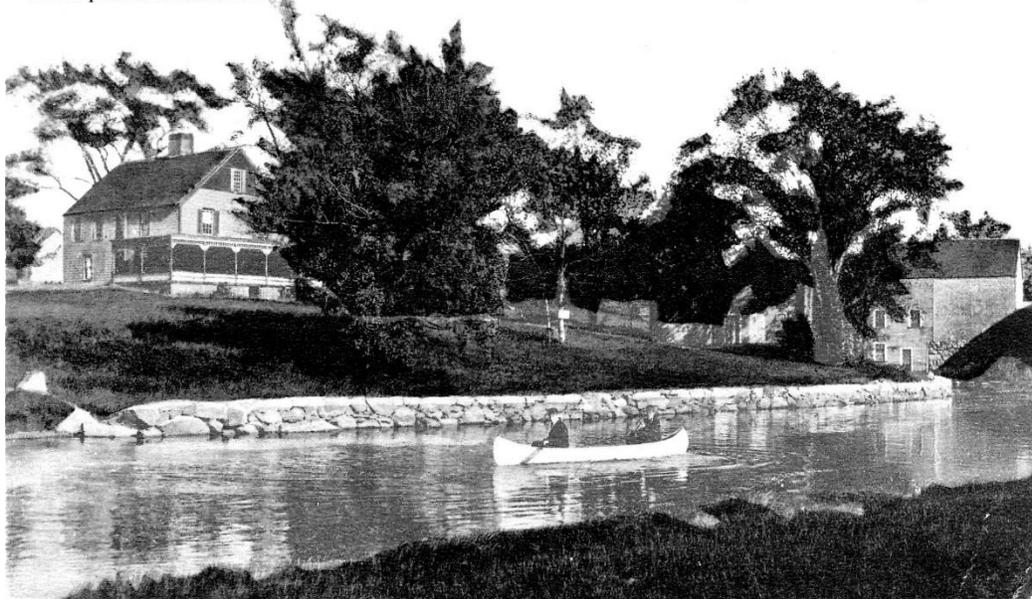
A large well designed ell in the back was added by *and includes*

P.S. A "burning and dying" room generally adjoined the kitchen area for warmth - for the new born babies and for the old and infirm.

Source: unknown

From postcard dated 1912

Lincoln Mills, Bound Brook, North Scituate, Mass.



Mordecai Lincoln House In Scituate

Photo from Paul J. Reale article



Compiled by C. T. Ladd August 2019